

## REMARKS

In the above-referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following species:

I. Species I, claims 1-12 and 28-32, directed to the difference between the first and second enclosure pressures being at least 90% of the difference between the base and first enclosure pressures;

II. Species II, claims 13-27, directed to allowing at least a monolayer of the first precursor gas to be adsorbed on the surfaces, with a first flow rate of no greater than about 250 sccm and a second flow rate of at least about 1000 sccm; and

III. Species III, claims 33-42, directed to a microfeature workpiece processing system with a programmable controller operatively coupled to the gas supply and the vacuum.

In response, the applicants elect Species I, claims 1-12 and 28-32. The undersigned attorney notes that claims 18, 26 and 27 are generic to Species I and II. Accordingly, applicants request that the Examiner examine claims 18, 26 and 27 at this time because these claims include the above-noted feature of Species I. Moreover, claims 14-17 and 19-21 have been amended to depend from claim 18 and include the above-noted feature of Species I. Accordingly, applicants request that the Examiner also examine claims 14-17 and 19-21 at this time.

Non-elected claims 13 and 33-42 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuation, divisional, continuation-in-part, or other application. The foregoing election is made with the understanding that the Examiner and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are now bound to the finding of non-obviousness between each of the species.

Upon allowance of the generic claims, applicants request consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or which otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claims.

No fees are believed due with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: April 13, 2005



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